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The Children's Newspaper, Week Ending March 28, 1953

THE QUEEN'S BEASTS—See page 7

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence | FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE | No. 1775, March 28, 1953

BRITISH PLANT-HUNTERS IN THE HIMALAYAS

Leader describes expedition for the C N

Climbing and footslogging 2000 miles in Nepal, through a region of the Himalayas never before visited by white men, three British botanical explorers gathered a rich harvest of specimens.

The roots and seeds they collected were flown to London, and are now being carefully tended at the Royal Horticultural Society's gardens at Wisley, Surrey. At the Natural History Museum the naming of the collection of pressed plants will take many years, but already a number of plants have been found which are new to science.

Mr. L. H. J. Williams, of the Natural History Museum, leader of the expedition, has written the following account of it specially for the Children's Newspaper.

EXCEPT for those with official duties in Katmandu, the capital, Nepal has always been closed to foreigners. Even now it is only in exceptional circumstances that the Government of Nepal grant permission to enter the country.

As a result of this isolation the flora of Nepal is little known, but it is of considerable interest to botanists. Lying about midway along the 1600-mile chain of the mighty Himalayas, Nepal is the meeting-place of the differing floras of the wet eastern and the dry western extremities.

Our base was the village of Jumla, between the Karnali River and Dhaulagiri, a mountain of nearly 27,000 feet, and exploratory journeys were made up to the border of Tibet.

CARRIED BY COOLIES

There were no roads and no wheeled vehicles. The equipment of the expedition—tents, food, and scientific material weighing altogether over a ton—had to be carried by coolies, who each took a load of between 60 and 80 lbs. Very occasionally ponies or yaks were used as carriers.

Progress was slow, for, except in the extreme south, Nepal is a confused mass of mountains. To cross such country means climbing over ridge after ridge, up 3000 or 4000 feet and down again on the other side. Sometimes we ascended to over 18,000 feet and crossed passes deep in snow.

RAGING TORRENTS

Rivers, too, were often formidable obstacles—raging torrents which became yet more fearsome when swollen by the torrential monsoon rains. The ceaseless roar of the water, accompanied by a deeper undertone as huge boulders were swept along and ground together on the river bed, was like a never-ending roll of thunder.

There were various means of crossing these rivers — perhaps simply a tree felled so that it lay across from bank to bank, or cleverly-constructed wooden cantilever bridges, or again several kinds of rope bridge. These rope bridges were nerve-racking in the extreme as they swayed unsteadily over the swift, turbulent waters.

Sometimes there was no bridge at all, and if the water was shallow enough and not too rapid we would ford across.

Each day's work began at dawn, when camp was broken. The coolies assembled, and started the march to the next halting-place.

Plants were collected on the way, and if a particular area seemed sufficiently rich, a halt for several days would be made.

DAILY TASK

A halting-place might be reached at any time between 4 p.m. and dusk, and after the tents had been pitched the daily task of writing field notes would begin. These gave the locality, habitat, altitude, and date, as well as a brief description of each plant collected.

Each day, too, the paper between which the plants were pressed had to be exchanged for dry sheets, and the damp paper dried. Unless this had been done the specimens would have become mouldy.

If a plant was found which seemed likely to be particularly attractive as a garden plant it was marked, sometimes by building a small cairn of stones. Later in the season this spot was visited for the collection of seeds and roots.

SUB-TROPICAL FORESTS

At lower altitudes in the south of Nepal it was so hot that subtropical forests and such fruits as bananas, papaws, pineapples, and oranges were plentiful. The lower valleys were intensively cultivated, mainly with rice and maize.

Above this region came a zone of evergreen oak and rhododendron forest. These rhododendrons were often 30 feet high, with trunks as much as two feet in diameter. The deep red flowers made a striking contrast with the intense blue of the sky.

Higher still there was a zone of pine forest, and then woodlands of

Continued on page 2



HIS OWN ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Mr. Arnold B. Walker runs a hospital for wild animals and birds at his home at Sleights, near Whitby, and his children help him.

Children from all parts of the Whitby district take injured birds and animals to him, and among the patients have been all manner of sea birds, a kestrel, a badger, and a fox. Birds picked up on the beach at Whitby with their feathers oil covered are also taken to Mr. Walker, and he has a special ration of lard provided by the R.S.P.C.A. to use on them.

As natural history curator of Whitby Museum, Mr. Walker does a considerable amount of bird ringing each year, usually among blue tits and starlings.

NARROW SQUEAK

Men sawing a big branch in a timber yard of a factory at Wymondham, Norfolk, suddenly heard some strange squeaks. Stopping to investigate, they found a hole containing no fewer than 16 bats!

With the bats still safely inside, the branch was removed to an old dugout so that the small creatures could continue their sleep in peace.

We three

The two splendid Borzois seem to be smiling, like seven-year-old Annette Firman, of East Horsley, as they all enjoy a walk over the Surrey hills.

THE VOLCANO OBJECTED

We often hear of people "living on the edge of a volcano," but a New Zealand photographer has learned the unwisdom of even a short stay beside one.

Mr. J. H. Malcolm ascended Mount Ngauruhoe, in North Island, to take photographs of its crater. The mountain was as quiet as a mouse as he stepped into the crater, but as he prepared to get snaps of the mysterious depths below, there was in indignant rumbling sound. A second later, quantities of burning ash and rocks shot up past him 200 feet into the air.

He took a flying leap over the rim of the crater and ran down the slopes while stones and hot ash rained around him. It was ten minutes before he could escape from the storm of hot rock, and he was very lucky indeed to escape with his life.

TALL STOREYS

A French lad who visited the Empire State Building in New York not long ago sent these facts about it to Benjamin, the Paris paper for boys and girls.

The skyscraper has 72 lifts and 1860 steps for its 102 floors, 3¼ miles of telephone wires, 50 miles of pipes, and 3000 electric light bulbs—not counting neon lighting.

At the top the temperature is always between two and five degrees centigrade less than that at the pavement 1248 feet below. The wind velocity at the summit is seldom less than 31 m.p.h., and during storms velocities of 125 m.p.h. have been registered.

LOOKING AHEAD

A television aerial has been fixed to the chimney of a partly-completed bungalow near Evesham, Worcestershire.

ON OTHER PAGES

SIX-YEAR PLAN FOR PORTUGAL	2
REPORT FROM PARLIAMENT	2
IN THE AIR	4
SCHOOL OF BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURE	5
HAPPY WARRIOR IN AN OLD TRENCH COAT	7
SECRET TRANSATLANTIC TELEPHONE CALLS	8
TUESDAY ADVENTURE, BY JOHN PUDNEY	9

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SIX-YEAR PLAN FOR PORTUGAL

By the C N Diplomatic Correspondent

DETERMINED to keep abreast of industrial progress and to increase her overseas trade, Portugal has embarked on a Six-Year Development Plan.

The first part calls for the spending of nearly £100,000,000 on new engineering and power plant, and on roads, railways, and ports.

A further £75,000,000 is to be devoted to similar development in the Portuguese colonies, where it is also intended to establish new agricultural areas by irrigation.

These vast schemes are largely the work of a university professor who later this year (July 5) celebrates his 21st anniversary as Prime Minister and virtual dictator of Portugal.

Anyone less like a dictator than Dr. Antonio de Oliveira Salazar it would be difficult to imagine. This grey-haired professor of 64 is a modest, ascetic scholar; but he brooks no Parliamentary Opposition.

PEACEFUL RULE

All the same, during his years of power Dr. Salazar has wrought astonishing changes in Portugal, and the new Six-Year Plan is a further stage in the transformation which is bringing this backward country up to date. There is something more.

Since he first entered the Government on a surge of revolution in 1926 there has been a growth of steady, peaceful rule. In the 16 years before he took office, first as Finance Minister and eventually as Prime Minister, there had been 45 changes of government and some 15 armed revolutions, assassinations, and near collapse of the country's economy.

Dr. Salazar pulled the country back from sheer ruin in the years that followed, and proved himself a brilliant administrator. The speed with which he set about reorganising Portugal and establishing her on a sound economic basis astonished the easy-going Portuguese.

PORTUGAL ENVIED

It was all a one-man show so far as the direction and management were concerned, and now Portugal's financial affairs are the envy of her neighbours.

Yet there is still much poverty in Portugal, which is not rich in resources. The difference in the conditions of the well-to-do and the poor is very marked.

Portuguese peasants placidly take this for granted, but not Dr. Salazar. He is anxious to raise the standard of living, hence the new Six-Year Plan. If it proves successful—and there is little reason to doubt its ultimate success—a new era of prosperity will dawn for this little westernmost country of Western Europe.

PATIENT'S PRIVATE BROADCASTS

Supporters of St. Helens (Lancashire) Rugby League team have remembered those who cannot watch the matches played by their favourites.

A branch of Toc H has arranged with the G.P.O. for a land line between the ground and the local hospital, and now commentaries on matches can be heard in the three male wards.

HOME-MADE

A YORKSHIRE mechanic of Eastburn, near Keighley, is constructing a sports car in his drawing room.

Over ten feet long, the car will weigh 6½ cwt., and is expected to travel up to 80 m.p.h. when the 750 c.c. engine is tuned up.

Mr. Neil Johnston is the builder, and he expects to have the car ready by Easter. He will then remove the wheels, take out the engine, and carry the rest through the door!

IN his spare time, over a period of six months, 21-year-old Geoffrey Knowles has built an organ on the farm where he lives at Menston, in the West Riding. It weighs less than 100 lbs.

Geoffrey, a self-taught musician, has raised funds for charities by playing the piano accordion and the xylophone.

QUEER JOURNALS

Strange papers came to light in a recent competition in France for copies of the most original journal published during the past 100 years.

One was Le Courrier des Baigneurs, printed on waterproof paper so that it could be read by people taking a bath.

Another odd journal was one published for peasants in Hungary. Its first page consisted of news, but the rest were covered with sticky stuff so that they could be used as flypapers!

PLANT-HUNTING IN NEPAL

Continued from page 1

Himalayan birch, among which grew mauve-flowered rhododendrons. Above the birch forest and extending right up to the snow line at 18,000 or 19,000 feet is the Alpine zone.

The meadows here, when the flowers are out, are a glowing carpet of colour—potentillas of every shade from bright yellow to red, purple geraniums, blue and white anemones, yellow and white species of primulas, and Himalayan poppies with flowers of intense blue.

Higher up on rock crevices grew yet other lovely plants, including a delightfully-scented primula with white flowers and a blue one which we discovered for the first time.

On the high screes the vegetation consists only of dwarf cushion plants cowering among the stones to protect themselves from the severity of the weather. One strange-looking plant which grows at more than 18,000 feet keeps warm by hiding completely inside a dense covering of fawn-coloured wood in which were holes allowing bees access to the hidden flowers.

Report from Parliament

By the C N Press Gallery Correspondent

ONE marvel of Westminster is the speed with which great constitutional measures, pressing an indelible mark upon history, pass through Parliament, while relatively small matters often drag themselves out through a whole session.

The reason is that measures affecting the Crown are considered with deep and prolonged thought before they come to Parliament, and then are usually lifted "above politics."

Lesser bills often glow with controversy. As they do not affect Parliament's relations with the Crown, or the Crown's with the Commonwealth, free rein is given to criticism, leading to long debates and many amendments.

This column has seen historic decisions—such as the grant of independence to India, Burma, and Ceylon and the more recent Royal Titles Bill—win Parliamentary approval in days, even hours. On the other hand, measures like the Tubular Piping (Amendment) Bill (a name we coin with relish) may take months.

WE are reminded by an M.P. of the change which has come over our proceedings at Westminster between the reigns of Elizabeth Tudor and our present Queen.

The Elizabethan Commons four centuries ago liked to take its time, and one day the queen, meeting the then Speaker, asked him: "What hath passed in the Commons?" He replied gravely: "Three weeks, an' it please your Majesty."

ALGEBRA never was a very strong point with this column. Indeed, we had come to shudder at the very mention of it until Sir Herbert Williams made it clear in the Commons recently how important it is.

He pointed out that without algebra and its extensions of trigonometry, spherical trigonometry and the calculus we should not have the Nautical Almanac—and how would we steer our ships without that?

SPELLING holds no fears for Mrs. Freda Corbet, M.P.

"I have the great advantage of visual memory," she said, "to such an extent that it is only necessary for me to see a word written once and I never again have any difficulty in spelling it."

CHILDREN are smarter and better than ever.—Mr. Ellis Smith, M.P.

THE worst thing to do with a child is to show it the way to dodge difficulties.—Mr. Chuter Ede, M.P., a former teacher.

WHAT does the British way of life mean? Fair play, the rule of law, and order.—Mr. Clement Davies, leader of the Liberal Opposition.

News from Everywhere

UNSTAMPED

Five kittens were found in a mailbag aboard a train which had travelled 300 miles at Bloemfontein, South Africa.

A Belfast firm of architects will design the new cathedral for Johannesburg.

One New Zealander in every six owns a car.

A long-case clock made by Thomas Tompion was sold for £1600 at a London auction, and a Henry VIII Apostle spoon fetched £300.

Two university students at Sydney, Australia, are earning money by hiring out sheep to "mow" garden lawns.

Harlow, Essex, has become the first of the new towns to have more than 2000 houses.



The historic figures of Gog and Magog in London's Guildhall, destroyed during the war, are to be replaced, and the sculptor, Mr. David Evans, is seen at work on the gigantic Gog.

About 13,000 plants will be used in a floral clock to be installed in a rock garden at Hastings.

German engineers are testing a new type of road surface made of powdered rubber mixed with bitumen.

Members of the United Nations staff contributed more than £3500 to flood relief in Britain, Belgium, and Holland.

FALSE ALARM

Air rescue planes called out to save "two men drifting on ice" in Michigan, U.S., found that the objects seen were two big eagles.

A forest to be planted beside the River Waveney between Fritton and Belton, Suffolk, will have a spot for picnickers.

More tourists are visiting the New York headquarters of the United Nations than go to see the Rockefeller Centre and the Statue of Liberty.

LIFEBOAT LAUNCHERS

Gold badges have been presented by the Duchess of Kent to Mrs. Ellen Tart and Miss Madge Tart who have helped to launch the Dungeness lifeboat for 50 years.

The Army serves 12 million meals a week.

Since the end of the war the British Motor Industry has exported over 2,500,000 vehicles, valued at £882,000,000, and is now exporting 30,000 a month, nearly 50 per cent of its total output.

FEATHERED RAIDERS

A cormorant has been stealing goldfish from a garden pond at Hawkedon, Suffolk—50 miles from the coast. Seagulls at Mevagissey, Cornwall, ruined an acre of turnips by pecking the insides and leaving just hollow shells.

Last year, 6622 million bricks were produced in this country.

Bindon Abbey at Wool, Dorset, has been given back to the Benedictine Order after being in the possession of the Weld family at Lulworth for nearly 300 years.

OLD-WORLD COURTESY

Old-time dancing is being taught to the boys at Winchmore Hill Secondary School, London, to give them poise and courtesy.

Miss Joan Arbuthnot has been selected as Portsmouth's 17th Temperance Queen.

A mattress which gently rocks people to sleep is on sale in New York.

LIFELIKE

A doll being sold in America cries when a lollipop is pulled from its mouth.

Lord Glentanar, Chief Scout for Scotland, is giving several hundred young trees to Glasgow Boy Scouts to plant at their Auchengillan camping-ground.

CHANCE TO BECOME A FARMER

The Government of New Zealand is puzzled because more boys in Britain are not making use of its generous agricultural training scheme for the sons of British sailors, airmen, or merchant seamen killed or disabled in the war.

This scheme provides a year's course in practical farming and kit to the value of £100. Every year 15 boys may go out to New Zealand under the scheme, but since it was started, three years ago, only 29 young men have made use of it instead of 45.

The plan certainly offers great opportunities. The lads sail from England in April or May and receive their training at Flock House, the N.Z. Department of Agriculture's School in North Island.

At the end of the course they become apprentices until they are 21—the Flock House trustees remaining their guardians during that period.

More information can be obtained from Mr. E. L. Smith, Secretary of the Royal Alfred Merchant Seamen's Society, 76-85 Ibex House, Minories, London, E.C.3, or the New Zealand Government High Commissioner, 415 Strand, London, W.C.2.

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ANIMAL ROLL OF HONOUR

At the London house of the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals a ceremony has been performed which would have warmed the heart of the founder, Mrs. Dickin.

It was the unveiling (by Lord Brabazon of Tara) of the Animals' Roll of Honour, recording the names of 32 pigeons, 33 dogs, 4 cats, and 3 horses which performed deeds of sagacity, courage, and devotion in the service of man.

A tribute was also paid to the memory of Mrs. Dickin, C.B.E., who died in 1951. Appalled by the conditions of sick and injured animals in the East End of London, she opened the first People's Dispensary for Sick Animals in a Whitechapel cellar in 1917, in the face of much discouragement.

She lived to see her organisation become the biggest international animal charity in the world.

THE QUEEN RETURNS A FOREST

Queen Elizabeth has given back a forest to Nigeria. It is one which was presented to her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, nearly 60 years ago, by the chief of Ijebu in western Nigeria.

For years this 20 square miles of rich land has lain unproductive; now it is to grow oil palms, citrus fruits, coconuts, rubber, and cocoa. Some £200,000 is to be spent on it.

So far 600 acres have been cleared and planted, and each year up to 1959 a further 1200 acres will be cleared and cultivated by modern methods.

ABBEY'S OLD SHOES

Workmen preparing Westminster Abbey for the Coronation have found hand-sewn leather shoes worn by monks and choirboys some 400 years ago.

They will be chemically treated and put on show in the Abbey's small museum.

UNWANTED RABBITS

There are about 750 million rabbits in Australia. So, in a recent broadcast, said Mr. R. G. Casey, Australia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Minister in charge of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

Experts have estimated that seven or eight rabbits eat about as much pasture as one sheep. Therefore, if there were no rabbits in Australia, the country could probably carry another 100 million sheep—in other words, double its sheep population.

In terms of pasture destroyed, rabbits cost Australia between £300 and £400 million a year.

The irony of it is that rabbits are not native creatures of Australia. They were introduced to provide the country with food!

HIGHLAND NATURE SANCTUARY

A plan to establish a national nature reserve in the Scottish Cairngorms is to be put to the Scottish Committee of the Nature Conservancy by the Inverness County Council Planning Committee.

The proposed area extends to about 75,000 acres. It has many features of great interest to naturalists, including the remnants of the old Caledonian Forest which used to cover a considerable proportion of the Scottish Highlands.

In this region, too, can still be found the wildcat, now almost extinct, and the golden eagle, as well as Arctic and Alpine flora dating from the Ice Ace.

LIGHT LURE

A light-ray fishing sinker patented by a Norwegian firm has been tested at the Lofoten fisheries.

It takes the form of a hollow brass sinker with two apertures and containing a dry battery and bulb. When the bulb is lighted the light shines through the apertures and attracts the fish.



French Scouts in Kent cave

Jean Claud Degandt, Jimmy Brocard, and Patrick Lechever, of London's troop of French Boy Scouts, exploring a dene-hole in Chislehurst Caves, Kent, where they spent a night.



Building a snow wall

Royal Marines taking part in an exercise at Aviemore, Scotland, are here seen building a wall with blocks of frozen snow to protect their tent from the wind.

VIVID PICTURE OF YOUNG YUGOSLAVIA

A pleasing illustrated booklet called This Is Yugoslavia (Rockcliff, 1s. 9d.) has been specially written by Hebe Spaull to introduce schoolchildren to this fascinating land of the Southern Slavs.

Miss Spaull has much to say of the Yugoslav children, and also describes their exciting Children's Railway, which has a real train with a real engine. The bigger boys and girls are allowed to take turns as engine-driver, guard, or signalman as the train runs for several miles through a forest, stopping at two or three small stations.

A grown-up engine-driver shows the children what to do, but as there is only one train using the line there is no fear of collisions!

This Is Yugoslavia avoids politics, but gives a vivid picture of the country's history and the present-day life of its people.

LANGUAGES IN CANADA

Most Canadians speak either English or French, but as great numbers of Germans, Dutch, Poles, and other Europeans have flocked to the Dominion in recent years there has taken place a language census.

It was found that after English and French come old Red Indian and Eskimo languages—spoken by no fewer than 145,000 people. This was not the case ten years ago, when Polish was third. About 10 thousand more people today speak the Red Indian and Eskimo languages than was the case then.

BACK TO PAKISTAN

Seven years ago, an Englishman on horseback passed through the teeming villages of the Punjab to gain first-hand knowledge of conditions there. He was Sir Malcolm Darling, at that time a Government official in India.

Now Sir Malcolm is back again in the land he served for 35 years. This time he is working for the International Labour Organisation, which aims to help the Pakistan Government with its plans for improving living conditions among farm workers.

DOCTORS TO TEACH DOCTORS

Sir Alexander Fleming, Nobel Prize winner and the discoverer of penicillin, is now in India with a team of doctors from seven different countries.

They are there to exchange the latest medical knowledge with Indian physicians, teachers of science, and public health specialists.

This teaching mission, which will later visit Indonesia, is jointly sponsored by the World Health Organisation and the American Unitarian Church.

NEW BROOM ON THE LINE

A new American sweeper-up of cinders, stones, and other materials dropped in railway sidings is to be tried by British Railways.

In many of the larger railway yards between 1000 and 2500 tons of this kind of refuse have to be cleared by hand every year.

The new mobile track-sweeper can be operated by one man. It has six rubber-tyred wheels, and can ride over the lines, or between or alongside them.

The cinders and other rubbish are swept into a scoop by a series of blades working in an endless chain, and are then loaded into wagons by conveyor belts.

It is hoped that the machine will also be useful for clearing snow from the railway track. In America it has been used to clear silt in the Mississippi flood areas.

FROM A KITCHEN OF 2000 YEARS AGO

The Bridlington Augustinian Society had many finds last year, one of the most interesting being a food vessel of about 400 B.C.

When unearthed, the vessel fell to pieces in the hands of the finder. In it were seeds, which were sent to Cambridge and found to be elderberry seeds 2000 years old.

Among the finds were Roman coins from Tetricus (267 to 273) to Gratian (359 to 383). Other finds were a jet ring, bangles, buckles, bracelets, carved stone querns, chisels, nails, and tiles.



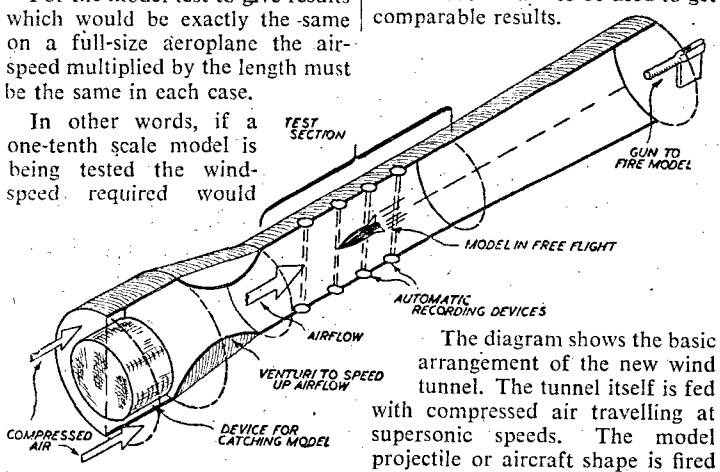
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Models fly at 2500 m p h

Data gained from wind tunnel tests are invaluable to the aircraft designer. There is one drawback, however, in applying information obtained with model tests to full-size aircraft.

For the model test to give results which would be exactly the same on a full-size aeroplane the air-speed multiplied by the length must be the same in each case.

In other words, if a one-tenth scale model is being tested the wind-speed required would have to be ten times that of the full-size aeroplane. When the full-size machine may be designed for 600 m.p.h. or more, a wind tunnel speed of over 6000 m.p.h. is needed!



There are several ways of overcoming this problem. One is to build large wind tunnels which will house full-size models and test at full-size speeds. This increases the cost and complication of the project.

Another method is to increase the *effect* of the air by using it in a compressed state.

The latest method used in America is to employ a small wind tunnel, operated at supersonic air-speeds, in which the model is fired like a projectile.

In this way six-inch models have been used to obtain data for the design of 50-foot rocket-powered projectiles intended to fly at over 2000 m.p.h.

Using the best of the standard high-speed wind tunnels, a ten-foot model would have to be used to get comparable results.

The diagram shows the basic arrangement of the new wind tunnel. The tunnel itself is fed with compressed air travelling at supersonic speeds. The model projectile or aircraft shape is fired from a launching gun against the airstream flow so that the *relative* airspeed is still further increased.

Its progress through the 18-foot-long test section is recorded by a series of light beams, photo-electric cells, and shadowgraph images.

After passing through the test section the model is caught in a steel cylinder packed with cotton waste and backed by steel and wool.

The model travels so fast down the tunnel that it cannot be seen by the naked eye and the data have to be plotted from the automatic records.

These special instruments measure distances to within a millionth of an inch and time to within one-tenth of a microsecond (one ten-millionth part of a second).

THE MAN FROM MASSACHUSETTS

THIS week marks the bicentenary of the birth of the founder of the Royal Institution of Great Britain. He was Benjamin Thompson, Count von Rumford, a man of many talents and vast energies, and he was born at North Woburn, Massachusetts, on March 26, 1753.

As a boy he showed a particular aptitude for mathematics, and spent much of his spare time making fireworks and tinkering with mechanical contrivances.

When the War of American Independence broke out in 1775 he was arrested on a charge of sympathy with the British Government, and although pronounced innocent in court he decided to set out for England. In this country his knowledge of the rebellious colonies was so useful that he was taken into the service of the Colonial Office.


Count von Rumford

He resumed his experiments with gunpowder and firearms, devised a new marine signal code, and so impressed British scientists that in 1779 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Five years later he went to Munich, where the Elector of Bavaria made him head of his War Department. Thompson showed his amazing abilities by reorganising the Bavarian Army, draining marshes, and rounding up the numerous beggars in the country and putting them to work in various industries. For these services he was made a Count of the Holy Roman Empire, and he became Count von Rumford.

As such he returned to England in 1795 and, impressed by the smoke of London, set about designing a chimney for diminishing it and saving fuel. He also designed a hot-air oven called a "Rumford Roaster"; he built working models of steam-engines; invented looms, spinning wheels, and agricultural implements; constructed various types of bridges, and even concocted a new soup popularly known as "Rumford Soup."

He was the founder of the Rumford Medal of the Royal Society awarded for the discovery of improvements in light and heat.

He left England in 1803 and settled in Paris, and there in 1814 he died, a versatile man of ideas who was assessed by President Roosevelt as one of the three greatest minds that America has produced.

In the Air

By the C N Flying Correspondent

Many happy returns

DE HAVILLAND'S famous Tiger Moth training biplane has celebrated its 21st birthday—which, for an aeroplane, is quite an achievement.

The oldest British aircraft still flying in any numbers (more than 160 are on the British Civil register and many hundreds of others are flying elsewhere in the world), the Tiger Moth still has a good deal of life in its robust airframe and reliable engine.

Thousands of R.A.F. pilots learned to fly in the "Tiger"—and during the war it was even used on anti-submarine patrols!

Halfway space suit

BUDDING astronauts declare that space flight is "just around the corner." However that may be, Canadian and U.S. jet pilots are already being equipped with flying outfits that make them look like the popular picture of the "space man."

Known as Partial Pressure Suits, these new flying suits have been designed so that in the event of a failure in a cabin pressurisation system, the crew would survive during a dive to a safer height. In such an emergency, high pressure oxygen would be supplied to the lungs, inflating them automatically, and the Pressure Suits would provide an equal outside force, preventing the body from taking too much oxygen.

Up and up

BY 1960 domestic air cargo in the United States may grow to one-and-a-half million ton-miles a year.

This is the equivalent of 49,208 rail trucks carrying 25,000 lbs. per truck for the trip from New York to Los Angeles—or, in other words, despatching four goods trains of 47 trucks each over the same route every working day for a year.

It is estimated that air cargo will eventually become more important than passenger traffic.

Rocket fighter

FRENCH-DESIGNED aircraft are often unorthodox, and the new Sud Ouest SO.9000 jet fighter is just as unusual as its predecessors.

Among its outlandish features are tiny square-shaped wings with twin jets mounted at the tips, and a powerful rocket engine mounted in the rear fuselage. With all three engines roaring away, the SO. 9000 can fly faster than sound in level flight.

Unreluctant dragon

WITH four wing-mounted cannon, 16 rockets, and a 16-inch torpedo, the Westland Wyvern seems as formidable as its namesake, the heraldic dragon.

A new feature of this exceptionally fast carrier-borne fighter is the addition of finlets above and below the tailplane.

The first Naval Aviation squadron to be equipped with turbo-prop-powered Wyverns is now being formed.

SATURN AND NEPTUNE IN THE NIGHT SKY

By the C N Astronomer

THE ringed world Saturn is now well placed for observation in the south-east sky of an evening, and may be readily found owing to its proximity to the bright star Spica.

They are the two brightest luminaries in that region and cannot be mistaken. Saturn, being somewhat brighter than first magnitude, is brighter than Spica and is seen above and to the left of the star at a distance of about ten times the apparent width of the Moon.



As Saturn is now travelling to the right, in the direction indicated by the arrow, it will seem to approach Spica during the next three months.

This region has an additional interest this year owing to the presence of the remote planet Neptune, which is in the position indicated by the X on the star-map (Neptune cannot be seen with the naked-eye as it is of only eighth magnitude).

Powerful fieldglasses, however, should enable Neptune to be glimpsed on clear, moonless nights among the several stars of similar magnitude in the vicinity. Without an astronomical telescope, the problem will be to find out which of these is Neptune.

This is possible only by making a rough sketch of the precise positions of the faint starlike points near the place indicated on the star-map; later on it will be seen that one has moved. This will be Neptune.

Neptune's movement will be to the right, as shown by the small arrow on the star-map, but it will seem to be very slow, amounting only to the length of the arrow in about three months. It will, however, be quite perceptible from week to week.

At present Neptune is at about its nearest to us for this year, and therefore at its brightest. This light, however, amounts to very little as this great world, with a diameter of 33,000 miles, is at a distance of 2718 million miles.

Saturn, which appears to be in close proximity to Neptune, is actually much nearer to us than to Neptune—813,750,000 miles distant. (*On April 14 it is at its nearest to us for this year.*)

Saturn appears brighter now than it has done for the past four years because the planet's grand Ring System has opened out so much more, the increased tilt presenting a larger area of the sunlit upper surface towards the Earth.

As seen through an astronomical telescope, these radiant Rings now appear about four times greater in width than in the foreshortened view. Consequently the two divisions that exist between these three concentric Rings may be clearly seen, the broadest, known as Cassini's Division, being clearly perceptible in an astronomical telescope of only two-inch aperture.

THE THREE RINGS

As this division is about 3000 miles wide, we realise how small a feature may be seen at this great distance with a small telescope.

The outer Ring A has an overall diameter of 171,000 miles, its flat, luminous surface being 10,000 miles wide.

The middle Ring B is about 16,000 miles in width, and is the brightest of them all.

The inner Ring C, which extends to within 7000 miles of the surface of Saturn's sphere, is about 11,500 miles wide and its outer edge is only about 1000 miles from Ring B.

This inner Ring is also known as the Crape Ring because of its tenuity and semi-transparent appearance, which permits the sphere of Saturn to be seen through it, thus confirming other evidence that the Rings are composed of innumerable tiny "moonlets."

G. F. M.



From hurdling to ballet

A school for ballet dancers is conducted at Wanstead, Essex, by Mrs. Geoffrey Dyson, here seen with some very young pupils. Before her marriage Mrs. Dyson was well-known as Maureen Gardner, the Olympic Games hurdler.

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GATEWAYS TO SUCCESS—8

The School of Boot and Shoe Manufacture, Leicester

ABOUT 150 million pairs of boots and shoes, of all kinds of materials from leather to plastics, are made every year in Great Britain, and the making of a single pair of shoes may be shared between as many as 150 different workers.

So you see that there are quite a lot of people wanted in this industry. It is mostly confined to two areas—one in and around the cities of Leicester and Northampton, including Derby and Mansfield, and the other in Lancashire. Outside these, Norwich and the little town of Street in Somerset make a lot of shoes, and so do Kilmarnock and Glasgow in Scotland.

Shoe manufacture is very highly mechanised, but it still remains based on the old handcraft which goes back into the dim ages. When I went over the big and busy premises of the School of Boot and Shoe Manufacture at Leicester, the Head showed me how some of these wonderful machines work.

Then he said, "Don't forget that these machines are tools, really, not processes. The man behind the machine should know his handcraft just so that he may get the machine to reproduce the same effects—but do it much faster."

He then did a little demonstration for me on a "Consol" (short for Consolidated Hand Method Lasting Machine). It is really a pair of mechanical pincers which does the delicate job of completing the tacking round the insole. "You see," he said, "you have to present the work to the machine in the right way. It's not like putting a penny in a slot."

THE school at Leicester occupies an imposing building in the centre of the city, as part of the College of Art and Technology, and lectures and design work are done on the premises. But the machine rooms where all the noisy work goes on are in a separate series of buildings beyond the tennis courts on the opposite side of the road.

There are also two comfortable hostels for boys and girls whose homes are in other parts of the country.

In fact, there are usually some foreign students at Leicester as well, for the school's fame has spread far and wide. I had a talk with a young Swede from Stockholm who was working alongside an Egyptian lad of 20 or so.

The youngest entrants are mostly school-leavers who are already employed locally in the boot and shoe industry, and come to the school on part-time day-release for two half-days a week.

But there are many others, slightly older, who do the full-time courses, mostly lasting three years. Most of them come from Secondary Modern Schools.

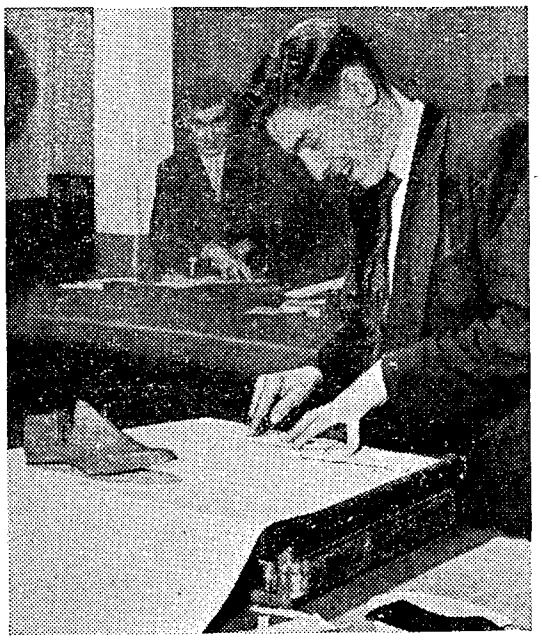
The training is open equally for boys and girls. The girls are employed in the industry either in a factory's Closing Room, where they work the power-driven sewing machines, or in the Shoe Room, where the footwear is given its nice, bright finish so that it may look attractive in the shops.

THE general idea of the school is to give students who are already in the industry, or who mean to enter it when they are older, a general knowledge of the whole process, so that they may form a sort of reservoir from which the foremen and managers of the future may be picked. For in the ordinary working life of a boot and shoe operative he probably learns one particular process and never sees all the others that are going on round him.

So the school wants boys and girls who have done reasonably well in their previous education, because the whole point of teaching young people the general background of an industry is to fit them for the higher grade jobs when they get older.

As we went round we came to a lecture room where the non-technical side was taught. This includes General Knowledge, Elementary Physics, and an insight into the problems of factory life. There are also lessons in Civics, starting with Local Government (many students come here with Local Government Grants), and working up to National Government.

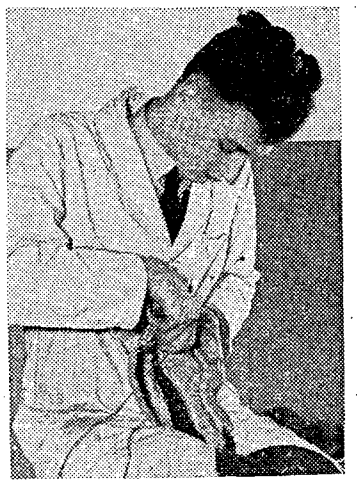
IF a boy's previous technical education, before coming to the school, is found to be up to standard he may be allowed to skip the first year's work of the course and start straight away on the second. This second year is known as the Foremanship Stage, while the third is the Managerial.



Cutting paper patterns for the lasts



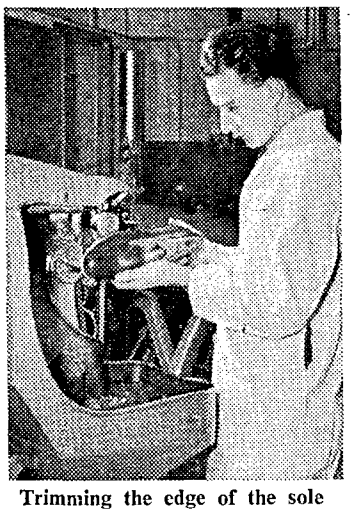
Cutting parts for uppers in the clicking room



Hand-sewing the welt to the upper



Trimming surplus leather



Trimming the edge of the sole

At the end, the City and Guilds Technological Certificate exam is taken, and those of the Institute of Industrial Administration and of the British Boot and Shoe Institution. Only after these have been passed do students qualify for the Diploma.

The second year subjects include, besides the technical ones, Science of Shoe Materials (which are various), Anatomy of the Foot and Leg, Labour Management, and Costing. In the third year there is advanced technology, some law, and also human relations.

The lower age limit for students is 16. The upper limit has never yet been fixed, and the Head told me that he once had through his hands a married couple of about 60 who had inherited a retail shoe business, and thought they ought to know something about boots and shoes. So they both took the course like anyone else.

THE various rooms or shops the student goes through are as follows: Pattern Cutting, where paper patterns are cut to fit various lasts according to the design of the footwear; Clicking, where the parts of the uppers are cut out; Closing, where the parts of the upper are joined up; Bottom Stock, where soles and insoles and leather heels are cut out; Lasting, where the uppers are attached to the insoles; Making, where the lasted shoe has its sole attached; Finishing, where the edges are shaped, polished, and coloured; and, lastly, the Shoe Room, where the finished article is given its final cleaning and polish.

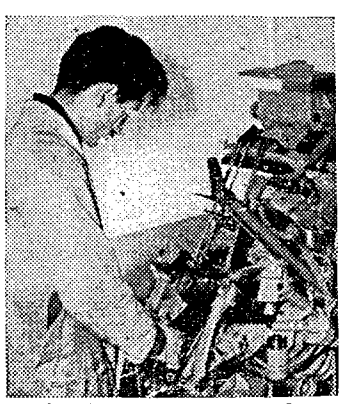
The School also runs a three-year course in Shoe Design, though there are not many vacancies in this work. Students can come straight into the second year of the course if they have finished a suitable course in a school of art first.

Then they all have to pass the City and Guilds exam in Shoe Manufacture, before taking the Ministry of Education's examinations for the National Diploma in Design for Shoemaking.

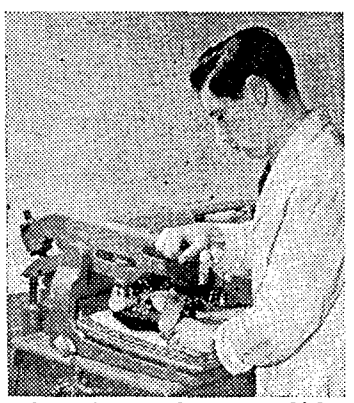
A. V. I.



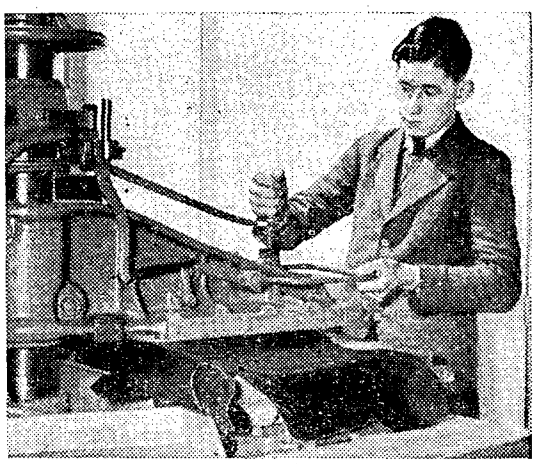
Folding in edges before stitching



This picture shows a student using a pulling-over machine which moulds the upper of the shoe over the last



Operating a stuck-on press which attaches an inner sole to the shoe, which is then ready for another sole to be cemented on



A clicking press being used by a student

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Children's Newspaper
John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · E.C.4
MARCH 28 1953

The Editor's Table

PRESENTS ALL ROUND

THE children of India have had the pleasing idea of presenting an elephant to the children of China. The four-ton animal has been sent off, and 200 children waved good-bye, happy in the belief that Jumbo would convey their best wishes to the children of China.

This is an idea that might well be copied round the world just now. Letters and messages can do a lot to maintain friendships, but presents are always heart-warming.

IN the Middle Ages present-giving between the nations was a regular practice. Nowadays we give practical presents—money, clothes, food—in times of distress and disaster.

But a gift made for no special purpose at all, other than as a show of friendship, would do much to brighten up the international scene.

A present is the more welcome when it is unexpected. The whole world would benefit from more acts of spontaneous friendship, and children can lead the way in making them. Nobody would look a gift elephant in the mouth.

JUST AN IDEA

As Emerson wrote: The only way to have a friend is to be one.

CANADA'S NOBLE GESTURE

A STEP forward in the struggle against cancer in this country has been made possible by Canada's generous gift of a new kind of apparatus called a Cobalt 60 beam therapy unit. A means of attacking the dread scourge by radiation therapy—*not* a cure—it will be installed at Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, Middlesex.

Radium units are at present used for this treatment, but the Cobalt 60 is 200 times more powerful. Its curative power comes from a radio-active isotope produced from the metal cobalt at Canada's Chalk River atomic research plant.

One ounce of cobalt is processed for a year in a heavy-water reactor to produce as much radiation as could be obtained from 50 million dollars' worth of refined radium—if such a quantity could be obtained.

The Cobalt 60 unit cost about £18,000 to build. Canada's gift of one is a noble and moving gesture to the Motherland.

Better than their elders

SEVEN children, all members of the Junior Road Safety Council, have sent to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents a report on a two-day watch they kept at a road crossing in Hampstead, London.

In all, they observed about 6000 people and found that nearly a quarter of them broke at least one of the rules of the Highway Code. Most of the defaulters were adults, for of the 1000 children they observed only ten failed to cross the road in the correct manner.

There could hardly be a better demonstration of the benefits conferred by proper training.

Bang goes saxpence!

THERE was amazement in a London bus when a sixpence given in change by the conductor suddenly split into two separate round halves.

An official at the Royal Mint said that a small bubble of air, created during minting, must have been the cause. So there is no truth in the suggestion that this was the first move in a campaign to make our money go twice as far.

Pottery at school



Wallington County School, Surrey, has a pottery class, and one of the boys is here seen shaping a vase

Scented bread

PEOPLE who seek novelties might jump at the idea of scented bread. How pleasant if the homely loaf exhaled sweet perfume over the breakfast table!

But when scented flour reached bakers in a certain French town not long ago, they turned up their noses at it and made inquiries.

It was discovered that a manufacturer of toothpaste and soap had established his factory near the flour-mill, and that the perfumes were coming from water discharged by the factory and later used by the miller.

Miller and manufacturer have been at loggerheads over the matter and have submitted their differences to an independent tribunal. Doubtless a way out will be found, so that the French rolls will revert to their own naturally delicious odour.

EARLY BIRDS

TWO small boys who were singing carols in a Dover street not long ago explained that any money given to them would be saved for next Christmas.

SPRING SONGSTERS

The nightingale has a lyre of gold;
The lark's is a clarion call,
And the blackbird plays but a boxwood flute,
But I love him best of all.

W. E. Henley

SERVANT OF THE WORLD

WHEN Mr. Arthur Sweetser recently retired from his post as Director of the United Nations Washington Information Centre, he had completed 34 years of devoted service as an international civil servant. The last seven years were given to the United Nations; the previous 27 years to the League of Nations.

At a gathering of his colleagues, Mr. Sweetser declared that now was the time for all servants of international ideals to show courage and steadfastness. And from the wealth of his experience as servant of the world, he spoke words of high comfort to those who will still carry the torch:

"During your low and grim moments, lift your eyes, I beg you, to those vaster horizons beyond; rise up out of the irritations and anxieties of the moment and realise that you have opportunities permitted to very few indeed.

"You cannot feel too strongly that the right is on your side and that your cause will win in the long run."

Thirty Years Ago

A WIRELESS operator who enjoyed himself by sending out the Twenty-third Psalm one night was delighted to hear 16 ships answer Amen.

A STUTTGART man who a year or more ago borrowed 35,000 marks to build a house has just been able, owing to the slump in the mark, to pay off the debt by selling one tree from his garden.

THE State of Wisconsin experimental station has discovered that cows give a normal milk supply when one-third of their diet consists of wet sawdust.

AN Italian musician has invented a machine which writes music in the same way as a typewriter writes words.

From the Children's Newspaper, March 31, 1923

THINGS SAID

IT is nothing like living in a "fish-bowl" for all to gaze on from the outside. The place is livable and I like the high ceilings. *Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower, on the White House*

I INTEND to go on conducting till I drop.
Sir Thomas Beecham

PIXIE hoods worn by women and children are a menace to road safety. The hoods not only cover the ears, but often act as "blinkers" so that the wearer cannot see sideways.
Birmingham Accident Prevention Council

EVERY college develops a tradition and personality of its own. It calls forth a loyalty from its old members and sets a hallmark on the students.
Mr. Clement Attlee

WE have to get it out of our minds that we are being kind to our fathers and mothers, when they are approaching 70, when we want them to put their feet up and stop doing anything. That is the recipe for shortening lives and reducing their happiness. *Miss Jennie Lee, M.P.*

THERE is a credit side to national service which should not be overlooked. A number of young men and women leave the Army fitter, better educated, and as more God-fearing citizens than when they came in.
Secretary of State for War

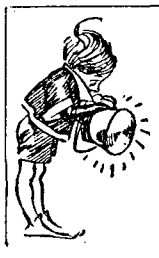
Preview of the job

AN excellent way of helping young schoolchildren to develop initiative in seeking employment has been tried at Farnham, Surrey. Boys and girls have been sent, on their own, to visit various firms and find out all they could about the work.

Several firms willingly co-operated, and the pupils, in twos and threes, went round the premises by themselves, noting what was going on and asking questions of the workers. Afterwards they wrote reports on what they had observed and of the knowledge they had gleaned.

These initiative tests are described in the annual report of the Surrey Youth Employment Service.

Under the Editor's Table



PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

If old books make a binding appeal

A boy climbed up and put his hat on a weathercock. Thought it a lark.

The Minister of Agriculture says there are too many starlings in Trafalgar Square. Maybe the starlings think there are too many people.

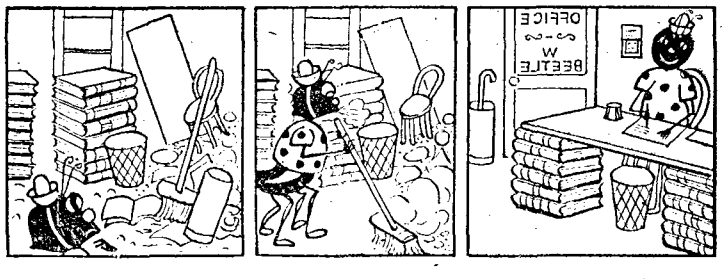
The time is coming when we will be able to measure noise by meters. We would rather take measures to stop it.

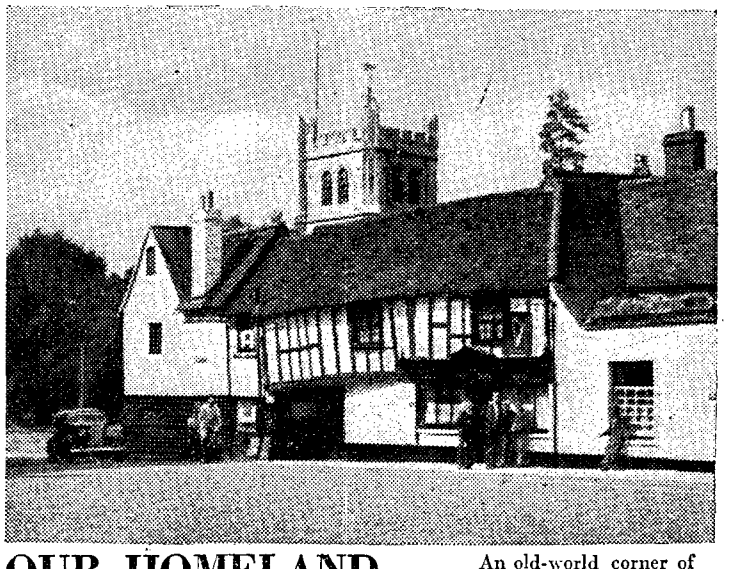
A lady has discovered there is a shortage of midgets. They always were short.

Charing Cross is the busiest Underground station. People get down to work there.

Children often ask questions nobody can answer. Like our Peter Puck.

BILLY BEETLE





OUR HOMELAND

An old-world corner of Waltham Abbey, Essex

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THE QUEEN'S BEASTS

Some time ago Mr. David Eccles, the Minister of Works, announced that a Coronation Annexe would be built outside Westminster Abbey.

"Here," said Mr. Eccles, "the Queen will alight from her golden coach. You will see a line of sculptured animals sitting upright, six feet in height—I hope with expressions of ferocious loyalty on their aristocratic faces."

Mr. James Woodford, R.A., was commissioned to design and model the ten figures, and in his Hammersmith studio he first of all made models in Plasticine, nine inches high. Then followed six-foot reproductions in clay upon wooden framework, and plaster casts were moulded from these. Now nearly all the figures are finished.

As can be seen in the picture below, the Lion of England (with claws and tongue of red) wears the expression of "ferocious loyalty" which Mr. Eccles hoped to see.

Most of the Queen's Beasts represent badges which were used in olden days by former kings and queens of England.

Badges are older than coats-of-arms. The first king of England to bear arms was Richard the First, but King Stephen used badges; at various times he used a Sagittarius (a Centaur, half-man, half-horse) and a plume of three ostrich feathers.

Badges were really devices adopted by families as distinctive marks for use on military equipment, servants' clothes, and various household articles. A notable example was the ragged staff of Warwick, the badge of the famous King-Maker.



The Lion of England

The portcullis was the badge of the Dukes of Beaufort, and as Henry VII was descended from them, and they themselves were descended from John of Gaunt, son of Edward III, Henry was anxious to use this badge to show his connection with the royal line. The portcullis appears in Henry VII's Chapel in Westminster Abbey, as well as in the arms of the abbey itself; they can be seen in the flag which flies over the abbey towers.

For the Coronation Annexe the little-known Yale of the Beauforts has been adopted in place of the portcullis. Rarely used in heraldry, the Yale is a fabulous beast with horns and tusks, rather like a cross between a goat and a horse. One of the few modern instances of its use was as a supporter in the arms of Lord Hunsdon of Hunsdon, a title now united with that of Aldenham.

The other Heraldic Beasts which will guard the Annexe are the Lion of England, the Unicorn of Scotland, the Falcon of the Plantagenets, the Griffin of Edward III, the Bull of Clarence, the White Lion of Mortimer, the Greyhound and the Dragon of the Tudors, and the White Horse of Hanover.

Of these, the Lion and the Unicorn are not badges but the supporters of the Royal coat-of-arms. After the Union of the Crowns of England and Scotland in 1603, one supporter was taken from the arms of the two countries to form the supporters of the new Royal Arms.

The Falcon of the Plantagenets is the badge of Richard the Second, who also used the White Hart (the origin of the innumerable inn signs). The White Hart was the ensign of his mother, and it was used by Richard in the decoration of Westminster Hall and the Abbey.

Henry VII used the Greyhound and the Dragon as the supporters of his shield, but he also employed the Dragon as his badge. The reason for this was Henry's Welsh descent; the Red Dragon of Cadwallader was an old Welsh emblem, and under Henry's rule the Welsh expected the return of the ancient greatness of their race.

The White Horse of Hanover was really the Horse of Saxony, emblem of the ancient Saxon race. It is much older than the other devices, having been used, it is said, by the Saxons Hengist and Horsa when they invaded Britain.

Certainly a White Horse has been from very ancient times the ensign of the County of Kent, and is now the badge of No. 500 Squadron (County of Kent), Royal Air Force.

The Bull of Clarence and the White Lion of Mortimer are used because of the close alliance of these families with our Royal House in the Middle Ages.

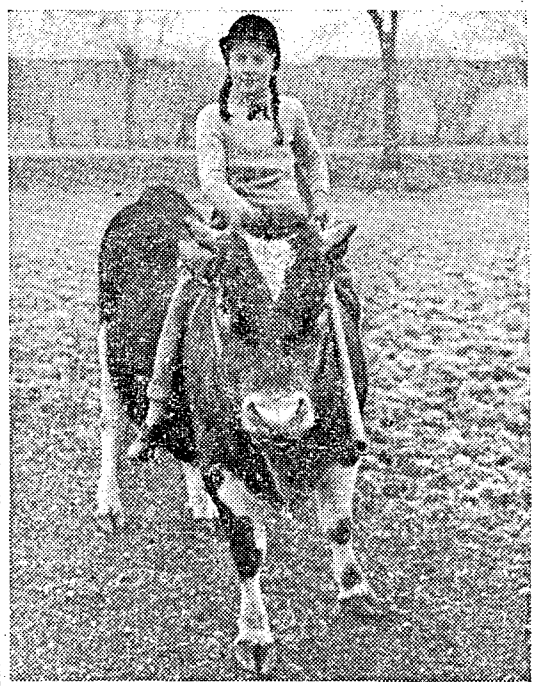
COUNTING SCOTLAND'S RED DEER

A new survey of red deer in Scotland is being undertaken by Dr. F. Fraser Darling, who lately returned from Alaska after investigating the grazing ranges of the caribou, reindeer, and moose.

The survey will take two years, and has been arranged by the Nature Conservancy. Two stalkers are to be employed, and Dr. Darling will also have the help of the Conservancy's Scottish staff.

One reason for starting the survey now is that the poaching season is on. Heavy poaching since pre-war days and the breaking up of a number of big estates have rendered the old figures about the size of herds out of date.

YOUNG RIDERS OF THE FARM



Eight-year-old Janet Curle of Staines, Middlesex, appears quite at ease while riding the bull "Starlight of the River."



Tractor-driver Jim Law is only five, yet he won three prizes at a ploughing match at Hillsborough, County Down.

NAMING THE TYPEWRITER

An article in the house magazine of the Imperial Typewriter Company tells how the word "typewriter" came into the language, and also the origin of the stock test sentence, "now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party."

About 1866 a successful writing machine was devised by three Americans—Christopher Sholes, a man of many callings; Charles Weller, a young Western Union telegraphist; and Carlos Glidden, a Milwaukee citizen who provided the capital for the experiments.

After the first sales factory model had been completed, the trio had many ideas on what to call it. Chirographer, tachygrapher, and the like were suggested, but finally they decided, as the machine wrote by means of hand-cut types, to call it simply a "type-writer."

The famous test sentence was chosen because an exciting political campaign was in progress at the time.

Putting his feet up



One of the workmen engaged in laying new sewers in London finds a section of the huge pipe provides him with a chance to relax during a break for tea.

HAPPY WARRIOR IN AN OLD TRENCH COAT

THE Founder of Toc H is an old friend of C N readers, many of whom are connected with his work, and they will all want to read his life story—Tubby Clayton, A Personal Saga, by Melville Harcourt—which has just been published by Hodder & Stoughton at 20s.

No man in the world has more friends than Tubby Clayton. As an Army padre in the First World War he went out to the muddy horror of the Ypres Salient, and his habit of greeting all and sundry, from brigadiers to privates, soon attracted attention.

In the frequently-shelled town of Poperinghe, near the front line, the energetic padre took over a large empty house where soldiers could come and rest and, if they wished, attend services. It was named Talbot House, after Gilbert Talbot, who had been killed in action; but the troops affectionately called it Toc H, in signalling language. "Let's go to Toc H at Pop," they would say.

OPEN TO ALL

That first Toc H was open to all. "It was full of friendliness, homeliness, fun, music, games, laughter, books, pictures, and discussion . . ." wrote one chaplain; and almost entirely responsible for this, of course, was Tubby Clayton.

A notice in the hall said: "Come upstairs and risk meeting THE CHAPLAIN." Outside his room were the words: "Abandon rank, all ye who enter here."

Tubby Clayton was determined that after the war he would maintain the tradition of friendship firmly laid at Talbot House, Poperinghe, and in an upstairs flat in Red Lion Square, London, he proceeded to nurture the transplanted spirit of the Old House.

That flat had no doorbell below, but from a window every evening he lowered a piece of string with a luggage label attached that fluttered three feet above the pavement. On the label was written: *Rev. P. B. Clayton, once of Talbot House, Poperinghe and Ypres.*

Any passer-by who remembered the Old House would pull the string. This rang a bell in the flat, and down would come Tubby Clayton to usher the visitor in and discuss the project of another Talbot House.

So was born the great Toc H movement which, with its concept of practical Christianity, was to travel far across the seas, "spreading the Gospel without preaching it."

Tubby Clayton travelled all over the world in its cause. Later he became Vicar of All-Hallows-by-the-Tower, the Guild Church of Toc H, with the whole world as his parish.

VICAR'S DREAM

All Hallows was destroyed by bombs in the Second World War, and its vicar dreams of seeing it rise again. He agreed to this story of himself being written only when it was pointed out that it might arouse the interest of more people in the restoration of the Guild Church.

Known to countless thousands as a cheery little man in a battered trench coat, carrying his belongings in a sandbag, Tubby Clayton is one of the most inspiring people of our times.

"He is a man who walks with men while still walking with God," his biographer writes, "and perhaps the most eloquent tribute ever paid him came from a coloured shoeshine boy in New York: 'Ah'm mighty glad the Reverend passed this way.'"

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FISH ARE SCARCE DOWN UNDER

There has long been concern in Australia about the shortage of fish in the coastal waters.

Edible fish (except shell-fish) have been decreasing in numbers, largely due to too many fishermen catching too many young and undersized fish before they have spawned. Mullet and prawns, in particular, have suffered heavily.

Stringent regulations as to minimum sizes are now in force, and already some benefit is being felt.

But Australia will never be rich in edible native fish, because she is in the wrong latitude. About 98 per cent of the world's fish supply comes from the waters of the northern hemisphere, the reason being that the cold waters of the north contain greater quantities of nutritive salts than warmer waters.

Those salts control the degree of growth of submarine plants, which is the main food of the fish.

Another reason for the shortage is that there is very little shallow water on Australia's coastline. Beyond the narrow continental shelf the sea bed dips steeply into great depths of ocean where edible fish do not exist in any quantity.

The average Australian eats only 17 lbs. of fish a year, compared with 45 lbs. a head in Britain.

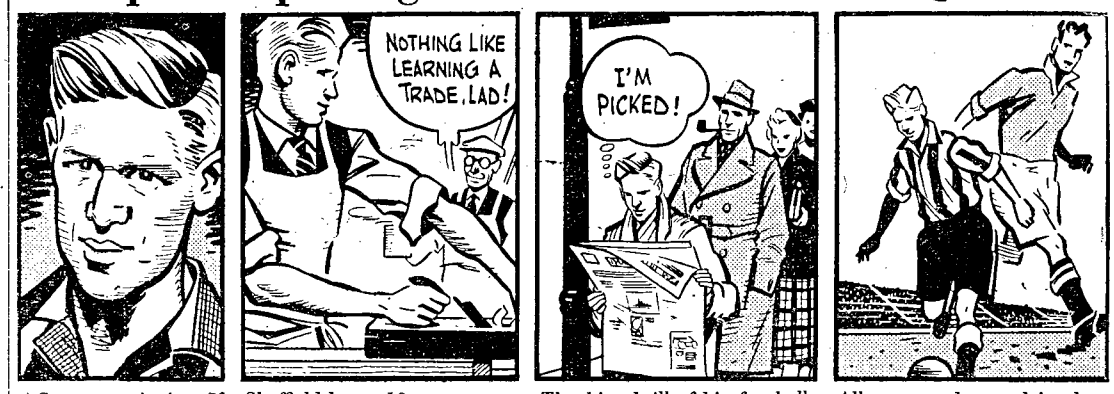
FORTY YEARS ON

Two Scottish plasterers who had emigrated to America were doing ornamental plasterwork on a bank building in Sherman, Texas, when they decided to leave a record of themselves for posterity.

They wrote a note giving the date, their names, and details of their apprenticeship in Edinburgh, and placed it in a box which they embedded in the plasterwork. "We are both steady men," read the note, "and good Scotsmen at that."

This all happened in 1910. The other day an American workman, while removing the plaster, found the note, and the relatives of the two men, now dead, have been traced in Edinburgh.

Steps to Sporting Fame ❀ Albert Quixall



A Soccer maxim is: "If they're good enough they're big enough." Albert Quixall, at 5 feet 5 inches, is good enough for Sheffield Wednesday.

Sheffield-born, 19 years ago, Albert served his apprenticeship as a joiner, but has been under the wing of the club since leaving school. Today their fledgling is on the fringe of international honours.

The big thrill of his football life came when he was 17. He was on his way to technical school when he saw his picture in a newspaper, and the news that he was in Wednesday's League team.

Albert scored a goal in that first match, and he still continues to score—his elusiveness making up for his lack of height. Quixall is now doing his national service and, of course, represents the Army.

SECRET TRANSATLANTIC TELEPHONE TALKS

While Mr. Eden and Mr. Butler were in the United States we may be sure they were in constant touch with the Prime Minister in London by Transatlantic radio telephone.

It is possible on some wireless sets to pick up these transmissions, but listeners cannot eavesdrop on these highly confidential talks—only strange meaningless noises would be heard.

Before being sent out the conversation is led into a wonderful instrument called a scrambler, which cuts the words to pieces and then mixes them up. This jigsaw of sounds goes out either from the Post Office Radio Station at Rugby, with its 820-foot steel masts each weighing 200 tons, or from another station at Criggion, in Shropshire.

It is picked up across the Atlantic by another ingenious machine which sorts out the bits and puts them back into their proper order. This happens in both directions, of course; but though it sounds complicated, each speaker hears the words uttered by the other in less than one-tenth of a second after they are spoken.

There is not much power in the human voice, so the radio station amplifies it 120 million times before sending it on its long journey across the sea. Even then it is so faint when it reaches the other side that even greater amplification is needed at the receiving station before the words are sent on to the listener.

To improve the quality of speech, and to prevent any interference between the outgoing and incoming conversations, the two are made to follow different paths.

The incoming sentences are picked up at receiving stations at Baldock, in Hertfordshire, and at Cooling Marshes, in Kent. The conversation then goes to a terminal station at Brent, in North London, where it is linked with the outgoing talk.

The International Radio Telephone Exchange is in Wood Street, near the Guildhall, in the City of London. It is on the top floor of a building which stands almost in isolation in the centre of the area between Aldersgate Street and Moorgate which was destroyed in the fire raid of December 29, 1940.

The switchboard looks much the same as the one that connects your own calls to a neighbour up the street, but over the different position in this exchange are names like New York, Cape Town, Karachi, Bombay, Shanghai, and other far-off places.

Over one section is the word Marine, which indicates that the operator at this point is connecting calls to ships.

Wood Street deals with some 90,000 calls during the year, and of these about 46,000 are to the United States. Telephone subscribers in the United Kingdom can be put in touch with 75 countries outside Europe.

The International and Continental Exchanges have guides who are always ready to show parties round. During a year more than 10,000 students, overseas visitors, members of clubs and professional associations flock through their doors to see some of the magic and romance of the long-distance telephone service.

KINGS OF THEIR CASTLE

Boy Scouts of Castle Hedingham, Essex, claim to be the only Scouts in Britain with an ancient castle for their headquarters.

The owner, Miss Musette Majendie, has given the boys the use of the entire castle, which was built by Aubrey de Vere, whose father fought for William the Conqueror.

AMERICA WANTS OUR POTTERY

Lady Anne Coke, 20-year-old daughter of the Earl of Leicester, has just returned from a four-month tour of the U.S.A. made primarily to interest the Americans in the pottery made on the family estate at Holkham in Norfolk.

She is a descendant of the celebrated "Coke of Norfolk," the great agriculturalist who in 1782 went to the House of Commons in country garb to present an address urging George III unconditionally to acknowledge American Independence.

In America Lady Anne was invited to talk to schools and colleges, and was bombarded with questions about the Coronation, and about Prince Charles and Princess Anne, whose portraits she found in most of the classrooms.

Her most popular samples of pottery, she told a C N correspondent, were those of the Queen in Scots Guards uniform and of the Duke of Edinburgh. Often she was asked for busts of Mr. Churchill.

"I also sketched arms granted to Americans who have had their ancestry traced in Britain, and we shall carry out orders they have given me for plates and dishes bearing their crests."

WATCHES FOR SIX C N READERS

Congratulations to the following six readers, who have each won a wrist-watch in Competition No. 21:

Wendy Andrews, Margate; Judith Armstrong, Darlington; David Atkey, New Malden; Rosemary Sivyer, Chichester; Michael Stones, Nottingham; Peter Young, London, N.8.

Each of these readers found 30 correct S-objects, including: Satchel, sandals, saw, saucer, scarf, scales, screen, screwdriver, seat, shoe, shirt, ship, shelves, shade, shavings, sieve, signpost, signal, skates, sleeve, socks, spectacles, spokes, spanner, stepladder, strap, stove, steeple, stool, sundial, sun, switch.

THE CORAL ISLAND—R. M. Ballantyne's story of the South Seas, told in pictures (final instalment)



As the natives fled in the hurricane, the boys' native Christian friend cut their bonds. The three managed to reach a cave, where they spent the night. After the storm had passed they unwisely went to the ruined village to get food. They hoped to escape to the mountains, but the natives spotted them. Jack knocked down the first one who seized him, but they were soon overpowered and put in the barricaded cave.

After they had been imprisoned for a month the barricade was removed, and the native Christian came to tell them that a European missionary had reached the island. Tararo and all his people had been converted to Christianity! The four ran to the village, where there was to be a bonfire of heathen idols.

The white missionary greeted the boys heartily, and told them he had heard their story. They were delighted to see Avatea with her lover, who had arrived from his island. The pair were to be married in a few days, the missionary said. Jack shook hands with the future husband of the girl they had risked their lives to save. The young native chief made an eloquent speech, translated by the missionary, praising the boys' courage, and thanking them for trying to protect his bride. "We shall pray for you when you are far away," he said.

The boys prepared to leave for home in their schooner. Three natives were to help them sail her to Tahiti, where they could obtain a regular crew for the long voyage to England. Everybody on the island assembled to wave goodbye to them. As the schooner glided out of the lagoon, joy was strangely mixed with sadness in the hearts of the three young adventurers.

On this page next week begins a picture-story of Sir Alexander Mackenzie's daring voyages through the wilds of Canada

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Thrilling new serial of adventure in Norway

TUESDAY ADVENTURE

Fred and I go to Norway with Uncle George, who is working on a secret scientific job. Uncle George is taking his new Flashray camera, which can take photographs in the dark. On the way to Norway we meet Malcolm Murdoch, who acts suspiciously. On the ship he sends a wireless message saying that he will operate on Tuesday. As we disembark we see another Flashray camera in Murdoch's luggage.

2. Ride into the mountain

UNCLE GEORGE lent us his Flashray camera before we went exploring.

"It's the most up-to-date camera in the world," he told us. "Waterproof, dustproof, foolproof, and almost unbreakable. That doesn't mean you can drop it down a precipice or throw it under a bus . . . and whatever you do, don't leave it about. It may float in water, but I don't want it to float off into somebody else's hands.

"I'll be interested to see what kind of results you get. It'll give me a lead when I start using it myself, which may not be for a few days yet. You'll be able to use the self-developing attachment, of course. That's foolproof, too."

Then Uncle George went off on his own without saying where he was going, and Fred and I started exploring.

Discovery

We had already taken some pictures of each other when we came across the rusty train of quarry tubs. They looked as if they had not been used for years, and we took it for granted that they had something to do with the old disused mine which lay above Lillifors, where we were staying with the Olsen family.

Lillifors lay at one end of the Sardanger Fjord, where Uncle George had some "jobs" to do. They were none of our business, as he had already made clear.

We got into the last tub of the train, and while I focused the Flashray, Fred sat at the other end with that silly look on his face that he always has when his photograph is being taken.

"Do keep still, Fred," I told him. "I can't possibly get a good picture if you keep moving about. I want it to look as if we're both travelling along in the last tub, with the snowy mountains of Norway behind."

"Well, buck up about it! This seat's hard! I say, what do you suppose this lever's for?"

"Don't mess about with that thing, you ass. It's some kind of coupling!"

I was too late. Fred, who can never resist fiddling, had pulled the lever, and the tub jerked into action as if somebody had pushed it.

The movement was so sudden that it took us both off balance—I at one end with the camera in my hands, Fred propped up at the other, nicely posed for the picture.

If we had been prepared for it we could have jumped, but by the time we had steadied ourselves the chance had gone. The tub was already zooming over the rails. It was, of course, the steepness of the slope that started the tub off with such a jerk and made it gather pace so suddenly.

Looking over the sides of the tub was almost impossible because of the wind. There was no brake, and we just crouched down inside.

Lucky for us that we did. If we had been poking our heads above the rim of the tub, we should have lost them when we went swaying and screaming into the tunnel. In the blackness we clutched at each other, attempting to steady ourselves.

After a time, Fred shouted:

by John Pudney

"We've gone down into the mountain."

I shouted back: "That's about it."

Then there was nothing else much to shout about. It was a case of clinging on and not raising our heads. I pushed the camera inside my shirt and hoped we would not hit anything. The lines must lead somewhere, and if they ended in buffers we should be very uncomfortable.

My thoughts, to say the least! were interrupted by a swishing of water. There was a drag on the speed of the tub, as if somebody had put a brake on. The darkness was less intense. We were coming into a greyish light.

The tub jerked upward. There was a great hissing and gurgling, and again we had the feeling that somebody had put the brakes on. "It's like arriving at the bottom of a water chute at a fun fair," said Fred.

That just about described what had happened. The tub jumped right off the bogies and floated free with us inside it. In the greyish twilight we saw that we were bobbing about on an underground lake in a cavern. The tub was so low in the water that I could easily touch the surface.

The pace at which the tub had been travelling left us with enough way to carry us out toward the middle of the lake. We paddled gently with our hands, moving toward the light.

"I don't fancy doing much of a trip in this thing," muttered Fred. "Let's make for the nearest dry land."

There may well have been dry land behind us, but it was pitch dark, and neither of us fancied the idea of clambering back up the tunnel through which we had come.

The centre of the lake seemed to be open to the sky, and across on the other side we could see galleries on the rock face where a landing might be possible. We had heard already that the mountains around the Sardanger Fjord were honeycombed with old mines and quarries, so we guessed that this was a disused working which had been flooded.

Sinking

Suddenly I noticed that my canvas shoes were awash.

"She's leaking, Fred!"

We paddled like mad, the icy water splashing up our arms and drenching us. Once the leak started in the bottom of the tub it seemed to gather force. Water soon came over our ankles; and, of course, the tub itself settled lower in the water, making it all the more difficult to get along.

By the time we reached the rocky side, the water was well up our shins. "You're nearest," I cried. "You go first."

Easier said than done. Fred was clawing at the smooth slimy rock face, seeking a hand-hold. "Clamber up on the rim of the tub and jump for it," I advised him.

"It'll sink you."

"We're going to sink anyway."

"Work her along toward that spar," Fred said.

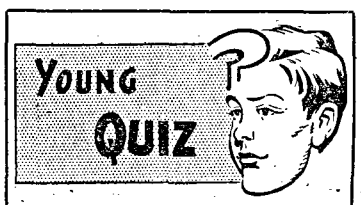
The place was strangely silent. There was only the slosh of water as we tried to manoeuvre the unwieldly sinking tub.

The spar we were making for might have been part of an old loading derrick. Fred lunged out and grabbed it with both hands as soon as we were within reach, swinging himself clear of the tub. A little water spilled in over the side. Then Fred heaved himself up so that he lay across the spar.

"Grab hold just as I did," he called. "I can heave you up."

I measured the distance and grabbed the slippery wood. Beneath me there was a gurgling sound as the tub settled in the water. Fred, now astride the beam, reached down and took hold

Continued on page 10

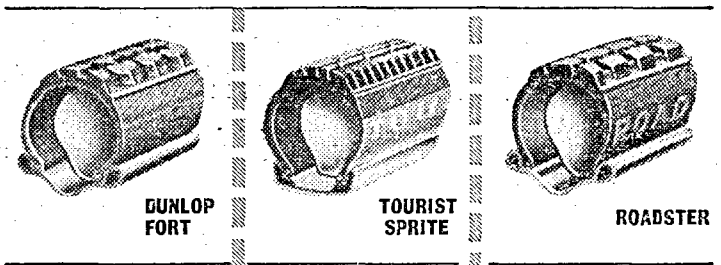


1. Who first claimed Newfoundland for England?
2. What is a synopsis?
3. The Andes are in Southern India, South America, or South Africa?
4. What connection has the name Betty Burke with Bonnie Prince Charlie?
5. Who said: "Father, I cannot tell a lie"?
6. Sanguine means always tired, always hopeful, or always hungry.
7. Who will captain the Australian Test team this summer?
8. What is a cache?

Answers on page 12

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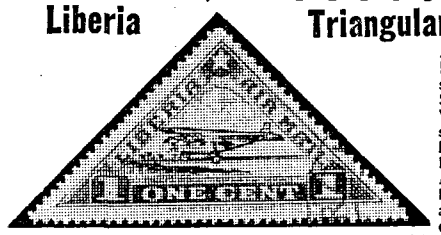
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SPORTS · SHORTS

A SQUASH team of six undergraduates from Yale University arrive in England on Sunday for one of the briefest overseas tours ever made. The following Sunday they will be on their way back to America, having played matches against Oxford, Cambridge, and three London clubs.

MRS. EILEEN SHERIDAN, the record-breaking cyclist, is now in training for the Land's End to John o' Groats record. Her daily training "spin" often consists of an 80-mile ride.



Alan Carter, 16, of St. Marylebone Grammar School, coaches two of the 13-year-old pupils for the annual sports day.

FOR the fourth successive year Joan Harrison, 17, has won five swimming titles in the South African championships. Joan, Olympic 100-metre backstroke champion, won the 100, 220, 440, and 880 yards free-style titles, and the 100 yards backstroke championship.

THE Bishop of Willesden, the Right Revd. G. A. Ellison, will umpire Saturday's Boat Race. He umpired the 1951 race when the Oxford boat sank. This is the 99th race between the universities, Oxford having won 44 and Cambridge 53, with one dead heat.

SOME 80 Grammar School boys will take part in an Easter Schools Soccer Week at Cambridge. Trials have been taking place, and the lucky 80 will be divided into teams and will play matches against well-known amateur sides.

GRAHAM GIPSON, 20-year-old Perth sprinter, has leapt into the world's athletic limelight with his performances in the recent Australian Championships. He won the 440 yards event, and was second in both the 100 yards and 220 yards sprints. Gipson may be going to Yale University this year.

GORDON PIRIE, 21-year-old South London athlete, is becoming one of our greatest cross-country runners of all time. Recently he beat 500 rivals over a 9½-miles course at Reading to win the National Championship in 49 minutes 15 seconds.

FIRST public glimpse of the Australian Test cricketers, due to arrive here on April 13, may be on TV. Permission is being sought to televise the Aussies practising at the Middlesex County cricket school at Alexandra Palace on April 16.

JACK McGLEW, 24-year-old South African cricketer, set up a new record with his innings of 225 not out in a recent Test match in New Zealand. His score is the highest ever achieved by a South African in Test cricket. Bert Sutcliffe, the N.Z. left-hander, also made a record in this match. He became his country's highest scorer in first-class matches, beating Roger Blunt's total of 7769 runs.

A NEW squash rackets star may soon be rising. He is Makheebullah, 15-year-old son of Safirullah, famous Pakistan player. Makheebullah intends to visit Britain next season. He has been coached by his famous uncles, Hashim Khan and Azim Khan.

THE biggest crowd ever to watch a schoolboys' football match will see the international between England and Wales at Wembley on Saturday. This will be the fourth time that England's schoolboys have played on the historic Wembley turf, and the second appearance there of the Welsh team. Two of the England side, A. Hawksworth, the Barnsley goalkeeper, and Patrick Neal, 15, of Northern Grammar School, Portsmouth, played for their country last season against Ireland.

TUESDAY ADVENTURE

Continued from page 9

of the front of my belt. Then he heaved me up.

The tub disappeared in a swirl of green bubbles. Fred and I sat on the ledge, taking off our shoes and wringing them out. "Next time I take your picture, Fred, you'd better keep still and not fiddle with things . . ."

"It's your fault for trying to put me into your pictures of mountain scenery."

"I wasn't to know you'd take us on a train ride into the middle of a mountain."

"People pay for rides like that. You ought to be grateful to have had the water chute for nothing. Besides, it doesn't look as if it is the middle of the mountain, not with all this daylight. Probably we'll find a way out in no time."

Still, we were both uneasy. Then something happened that ought to have cheered us up but worried us even more.

"Doesn't that sound like the splash of paddles?" Fred said.

"I thought so, too," I whispered. "Shall we shout?"

We scrambled to our feet. Neither of us shouted. The same thought came into both our minds. Who would want to be rowing through a lake in the middle of a mountain?

A few yards away from us along the ledge there were rocks that offered cover, and we hastily made for them.

"Suppose we shout when we've seen who it is?" Fred whispered.

When we saw who it was we sank farther back into our hiding place. It was Malcolm Murdoch!

To be continued

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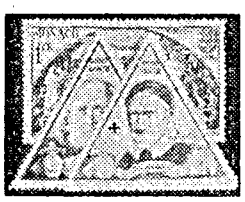
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Coronation Corner

Maypole in the Strand

A 45-foot Douglas fir, recently cut down on Vancouver Island, will be used as a maypole in London during the Coronation. It has been presented by manufacturers at New Westminster in British Columbia to the Strand Association, and will be erected in front of St. Mary-le-Strand Church.

The New Zealand Government will spend £45,000 on decorating and lighting Government buildings, and £7000 on souvenir booklets and portraits of the Queen for schoolchildren.

Doormat like silver

Indian weavers of Tirunvelly in Madras are making a doormat for the Queen from a fine grass fibre called korai. It is being embroidered in silk and will have the appearance of silver lace. Its texture is so fine that it can be folded to the size of a serviette.

Orders for nearly a million Coronation medals, to be manufactured in this country, have been received from all parts of the Commonwealth.

London Prepares, a Children's Hour series of five broadcasts beginning on April 5, will describe how the Capital is being got ready for the Coronation.

Continental guests

Under a scheme arranged by the European Youth Campaign and the World Friends' Organisation, over 450 young people from 12 Western European countries are to be the guests of London boroughs for two weeks at Coronation time.

From mid-April until the end of July some 2000 boys and girls from secondary schools all over England, Scotland, and Wales will visit London in parties to see the Coronation route and celebrated places.

New gear is to be installed to enable Great Tom, the famous bell of Christ Church at Oxford, to be swung when it rings for the Coronation. The bell weighs more than 7½ tons.

Queen's Scouts

Lads who will be in the centre of things are 200 holders of the Queen's Scout badge. They will assist the police outside Westminster Abbey—where they will see the Queen—and help in police canteens. Fifty of them will have the job of conveying exposed film from official cameras.

At Middleton-on-Sea, Sussex, a tree will be planted for every baby born there on Coronation Day. Each tree will bear the baby's name.

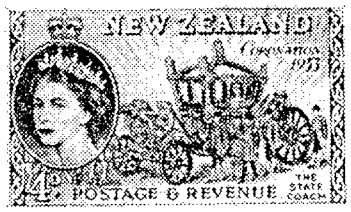


In the Land of Song

Wales is preparing to celebrate the Coronation and the Royal Visit with festivals of national songs and plays. The choir of an infants' school at Cardiff is here seen practising under the guidance of the young conductor, Gillian Wood.

STAMP NEWS

SALES of New Zealand's Health stamps last year reached an all-time record of £123,979. Some £36,000 from the surtax was passed onto children's holiday camps. Pictured here is one of the set of four special stamps which New Zealand is issuing to mark the Coronation.



THE first electric light in Japan was installed 75 years ago, and a new stamp celebrates the occasion.

ONE of the famous Canadian 12-pence blacks fetched £170 at a London auction.

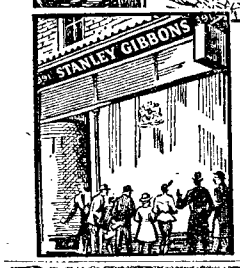
THREE personalities honoured by recent stamps are Gabriel Tellez, a Spanish playwright better known by the name of Tirso de Molina, Jose Perez, the Cuban champion of independence, and the Italian painter, Antonello da Messina.

MOZAMBIQUE has issued a series of 20 stamps picturing butterflies in natural colour and Ruanda-Urundi (Belgian Congo) a set of 19 showing flowers.

THE TRIANGULAR SACK



In 1863 two sailors home from South Africa brought a sackful of Cape Triangulars—won in a raffle—to a Plymouth chemist's shop. The chemist's son bought the stamps for £5—and with them founded a world-famous stamp firm. His name was Stanley Gibbons! Perhaps you'll be a great stamp collector one day. Then make a start today by asking Mother to get you a tin of Odol—it's a wizard way to clean your teeth. And every tin contains three smashing foreign or colonial stamps. Don't forget—ODOL



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Allsorts of help for housewives . . .



but Allsorts of Wilkinson's for Quality!

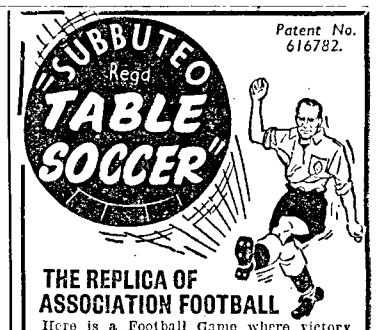


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"SUBBUTEO" Regd TABLE SOCCER



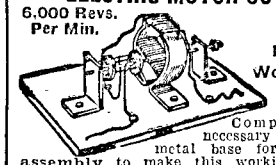
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LEARN to KNIT
Obtainable from Newsagents, etc., 1/3

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THE BRAN TUB

WITHOUT FUSS

"I THINK it would be a good idea if I painted you in evening dress," said the artist.

"Oh, don't bother," replied the patron. "Just wear your ordinary clothes."

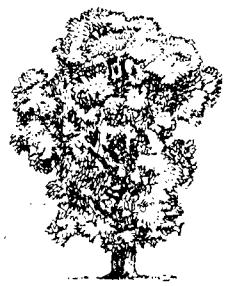
Hidden places

MY first's a talk of casual kind.
My next is cooked meat of a sort;
My whole is to be found in Kent,
A very famous naval port.

Answer next week

FAMILIAR TREES

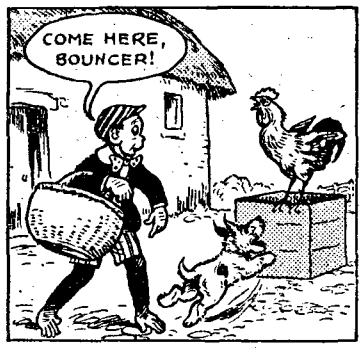
INTRODUCED to Britain during Roman times, the common elm is now one of our finest trees. The upright trunk is covered with thick, rough bark and often reaches a height of 120 feet.



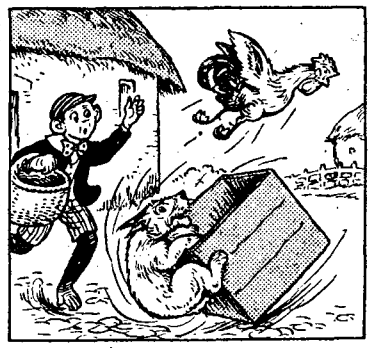
Elms are usually situated in hedgerows or open spaces, seldom in woods. The ovate leaves have serrated edges, and are very small for so large a tree. Early in the year, before its leaves appear, the elm's twigs take on a purplish bloom. This is caused by tiny brownish flowers which have purple anthers.

Elm timber is durable and resists damp very well.

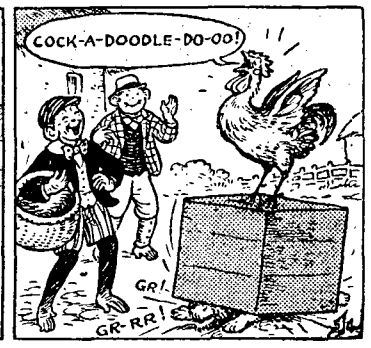
JACKO SEES BOUNCER GET A NASTY TURN



Bouncer thought he would teach that noisy cockerel a lesson.



But the cock's leap to safety had a most upsetting effect on Bouncer.



And Jacko agreed that the bird really had reason to be "cock-a-hoop."

Flower legend

ACCORDING to Greek mythology Narcissus was a handsome but vain youth who became so fascinated by his own reflection in a pool that he was unable to leave the spot.

He pined away and the Gods transformed his body into the flower we now call narcissus.

Riddle in rhyme

TOP my first and you overflow;
My second may grace a ring.
My whole's a yellow butterfly,
Oft seen in early Spring.

Answer next week

Uncomfortable bed

GROANED a shivering sportsman named Crozier,
As he crouched in a large bed of osier,
"If my feet get much wetter,
I think I had better
Look round for a place which is cosier."

SOLD

YOUNG Henry gazed at all the things
For sale in Market Square.
He saw some little guinea pigs—
These really made him stare.

When young Henry heard the price
He bought one on the spot,
And with his prize beneath his arm
Went homeward at a trot.

"I've saved five bob," he cried with glee,
And danced a merry jig.
"For sixteen shillings I have got
A smashing guinea pig."

RODDY



"Can I use your typewriter, please, Dad? It spells better than I do."

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS ODD BLACKBIRD.

With shrill cries of alarm, an orange-billed bird fluttered across the orchard and vanished into the hedge.

"There it is again!" cried Don. "It was half-black and half-white, but was rather like a blackbird."

"Sounded like one, too," said Ann in puzzled tones.

"That's not surprising," chuckled Farmer Gray; "it *is* a blackbird. It's an albino," he explained. "These freaks occur in other species, too. The sharp contrast of black and white makes it very noticeable with blackbirds. Entirely white ones have been known."

What's in a name?

A MAN stalked out of the surgery with a brown-paper parcel under his arm.

"Calls himself a chiropodist," he said indignantly to his waiting friend, "and can't stuff an owl."

ON THESE DAYS . . .

ALL the festivals of the Virgin are Lady Days, but the one falling on March 25, which commemorates the message of the Angel to the Virgin Mary, was once called St. Mary's Day in Lent. It has a special significance in commercial life, for it is the first quarter day for rents and other payments.

Palm Sunday, on March 29, is known in some country districts as Fig Sunday. On this day fig puddings are eaten in commemoration of the New Testament story of the withered fig tree.

No denying it

THOUGH Tom Moore's but a tiny lad,
It seems he weighs more than his Dad.
Whatever Dad weighs, it is sure,
That Tommy is a little Moore (more).

YOUNG QUIZ—Answers

1 Sir Humphrey Gilbert, in 1583.
2 A brief outline of a subject.
3 South America.
4 It was the name he adopted in his disguise as an Irish spinning-maid when he escaped to France.
5 George Washington.
6 Always hopeful.
7 Lindsay Hassett.
8 A hiding place for something.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Hidden players Wright, Williams, Crook, Short.

Chain Quiz. Gondola, Lambeth, Thebes, Estonia.

Jumbled towns Ipswich, London, Chester, Maidstone, Exeter, Winchester, Reading, Oakham, Carlisle, Bodmin.

P	O	S	E	■	O	P	E	N
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E	M	■	T	R	E	A	T	S
M	E	L	E	E	■	T	E	E
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A	■	S	E	T	T	S	■	I
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BEDTIME CORNER

BILLY SKIPS OFF

BILLY was very proud of the fact that he could run faster than any of the boys in his class.

"That's the third time I've won the races in the class sports afternoon," he said boastfully to his friend Jean.

"I could beat you," said Jean.

Billy laughed. "Why, I've beaten you several times."

"Well, I'll win this time," said Jean. "You be in the park in ten minutes' time, and I'll give you a race."

Billy went off and waited in the park. Within a few minutes he saw Jean approaching.

"All ready?" he asked, as she came up.

"Yes," said Jean, taking two skipping-ropes from under her coat. "We are going to have a skipping race!"

On the word "Go" Jean raced off, her rope whirling over her head, while Billy—well, he had not even started!

He had taken one pace forward—and caught the rope under his foot.

Jean laughed as she came back. "I won't tell anyone," she said. "I only did it to stop you boasting."

Billy grinned. "Well, I've learnt my lesson," he said.

Easter Egg Tree

HIGH on a hill overlooking the sea,
Grows the glorious, glittering Easter Egg Tree.
The eggs on its branches are various sizes.
And filled with cream-chocolates and pleasant surprises.
Elves gather the tree's leaves of silver and gold,
Which they wrap round the eggs and send off to be sold.
So look in the shops and perhaps you may see,
An egg which has come from the Easter Egg Tree.

Tiny trio



Fourteen-month-old Glyn Larcombe and his two-year-old brother, Ewan, get ready for a ride on their mother's Shetland Pony farm at Wraysbury, Buckinghamshire.

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two of the second, and so on.

1. Game bird related to the woodcock; lives in marshy country and uses its long bill to search for insects, worms, and small shell-fish.

2. One of the most famous and astute Tsars of Russia; visited foreign countries, sometimes working as a shipwright.

3. Poetic name for Ireland, popularised by the songs of Thomas Moore; related to the present name of the Republic; said to be the name of the wife of an old Irish king.

4. Large Indian river rising at a height of 18,000 feet in the Tibetan Himalayas; 1800 miles long, it flows into the Arabian Sea.

Answer next week



Sharps

the word for Toffee

Edward Sharp & Sons Ltd "The Toffee Specialists" of Maidstone

Makers of Super-Kreem and Kreemy Toffees, the toffees with the "Kreemy" texture.

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